

I. AMENDMENTS

Please amend the subject application as follows:

In the application:

Please add the following page after the claims:

ABSTRACT

This invention is a pliable intrastromal corneal insert designed to be inserted into an interlamellar channel made within the cornea of a mammalian eye. It is made of a physiologically compatible polymer and may be used to adjust corneal curvature and thereby correct vision abnormalities. The insert or segment may also be used to deliver therapeutic or diagnostic agents to the corneal interior or to the interior of the eye. The insert subtends at least a portion of a ring, or "arc", encircling the anterior cornea outside of the cornea's field of view but within the cornea's frontal diameter. The invention also includes both a minimally invasive procedure for inserting one or more of the devices into the cornea as well as the thus corrected eye.

In the claims:

Please amend claims 24, 28, 31 and 32 to recite as follows:

24. (Amended) The device of claim 23 wherein the cross-section areas of said plurality of adjoining sections are substantially different from each other.

28. (Amended) An insert precursor suitable for introduction into a human cornea, said insert precursor comprising a physiologically compatible member having two ends and an elongated body extending therebetween, the body comprising at least two adjoining portions at least one of which is constructed to effect correction of a refractive disorder of the eye after implantation, the cross-sectional area of said member changing substantially stepwise from one portion to the next along the body.